

REMARKS

Claims 2-9 and 11-40 are pending in this Application. Claims 3, 4, 6-9, 12 and 14-40 stand withdrawn. By this amendment, claims 2 and 11 are amended. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, Figs. 5-7. No new matter is added. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 2, 5, 11 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a/e) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0085599 to Kim. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Kim fails to disclose each and every feature recited in claim 2. For example, Kim fails to disclose "a process of projecting the single laser beam for reproduction...onto the deposited holographic recording layers," as recited in claim 2. In particular, Kim discloses a process of projecting two laser beams R_1 and R_2 onto layers L_1 and L_2 of the holographic recording medium 240, respectively (see Kim, Fig. 2A). Kim also discloses an embodiment utilizing a recording medium 340 that includes one recording layer. However, this embodiment also projects two laser beams R_1 and R_2 onto the holographic recording medium 340 (see Kim, 3A and 3B). In contrast, claim 2 recites that a single laser beam is projected onto the holographic recording layers for reproduction.

Therefore, claim 2 is patentable over Kim.

Claim 11 recites that "a reproducing laser optical system for projecting the single laser beam for reproduction onto the deposited holographic recording layers." Therefore, claim 11 is also patentable over Kim at least for the reasons discussed above for Kim, as well as for the additional feature claim 11 recites.

Claims 5 and 13 depend from independent claims 2 and 11, respectively. Therefore, these claims are also patentable at least for their dependence from independent claims 2 and 11, as well as for the additional features these claim recite.

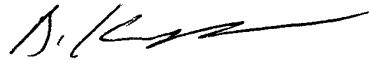
Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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